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43. (Amended) A gel according to claim 27, wherein the pigments are chosen from titanium, zirconium and cerium dioxides; zinc, iron and chromium oxides; nanotitaniums; ferric blue; carbon black; calcium salts of acidic dyes; barium salts of acidic dyes; aluminium salts of acidic dyes; zirconium salts of acidic dyes; azo dyes; anthraquinone dyes; pigments coated with silicone compounds; pigments coated with polymers; pigments coated with fluorinated compounds; and mixtures thereof.

44. (Amended) A gel according to claim 43, wherein the salts of acidic dyes are chosen from the salts of halo-acid dyes.

Remarks

Claims 27-83 are pending in this application. Claims 43 and 44 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicant considers to be her invention, as well as to correct a typographical error. Amended claims 43 and 44 are believed to be, of the same scope as original claim 9. Support for each of the amended claims can be found in the specification and claims of the original application as filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

In the appendix, claim text added by amendment is shown with underlining and claim text deleted by amendment is shown in brackets.

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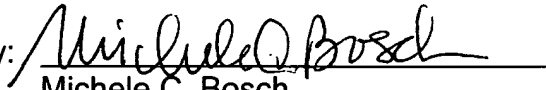
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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at (202) 408-4193.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 27, 2001

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APPENDIX

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), Applicants set forth claims 43 and 44 in marked up form. Underlined text indicates additions to the claim, and [square brackets] enclose deletions.

43. A gel according to claim 27, wherein the pigments are chosen from titanium, zirconium and cerium dioxides; zinc, iron and chromium oxides; nanotitaniums; ferric blue; carbon black; calcium salts of acidic dyes;[,] barium salts of acidic dyes;[,] aluminium salts of acidic dyes; [and] zirconium salts of acidic dyes; [acid dyes;] azo dyes; anthraquinone dyes; pigments coated with silicone compounds; pigments coated with polymers; pigments coated with fluorinated compounds; and mixtures thereof.

44. A gel according to claim 43, wherein the salts of acidic dyes are chosen from the salts of halo-acid dyes.

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